

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOU

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2616

EXDIS

GENEVA FOR BUFFUM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR, UN

SUBJ: SYG VIEW ON UNFICYP

1. AT PRIVATE LUNCHEON TODAY WITH WALDHEIM I WARNED SYG THAT CONTINUING TALK OF INADEQUACY OF UNFICYP MANDATE ON PART OF HIMSELF AND SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS WAS DANGEROUS IN THAT IT SOONER OR LATER WOULD RESULT IN SOVIETS AND OTHERS OPENING UP QUESTION TO DISADVANTAGE OF PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS. WALDHEIM AGREED, SAYING HE REALIZED THROWING MANDATE QUESTION BEFORE SC WOULD BE "OPENING PANDORA'S BOX". DESPITE THIS CONVERSATION AND EARLIER ONES, WALDHEIM IN THIS AFTERNOON'S SC REPORTED TURKISH DEMAND ON UNFICYP TO MOVE OUT OF CERTAIN AREAS (HE HAD SAID AT LUNCH ONE HOUR EARLIER THAT HE CONSIDERED THIS MERELY AN INCIDENT AND WOULD REFRAIN FROM MAKING PUBLIC REPORT TO SC ON IT SO AS NOT TO HIGHLIGHT PROBLEMS WITH TURKEY) AND POINTED OUT UNFICYP MANDATE WAS WRITTEN FOR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES - TO PREVENT INTER-COMMUNAL FIGHTING -
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AND DID NOT CONTEMPLATE UNFICYP BEING USED AGAINST REGULAR ARMED FORCES.

2. WHEN I APPROACHED WALDHEIM AFTER SC MEETING TO EXPRESS SURPRISE OVER HIS BRINGING MATTER INTO PUBLIC SC SESSION, HE JUSTIFIED HIS ACTION BY EXPLAINING THAT, IF TURKS INSISTED ON UNFICYP WITHDRAWALS, HE WOULD HAVE TO COMPLY SINCE HE COULD NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR LEAVING UNFICYP TROOPS IN POSITION INVITING ACTION BY TURKS WITH SUPERIOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT. IF UNFICYP SHOULD BE FORCED TO WITHDRAW, THERE WOULD BE PUBLIC OUTCRY AND CRITICISM OF UN FOR RUNNING AWAY, AS WELL AS FEELINGS ON PART OF TROOP CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES THAT THEIR MEN HAD BEEN NEEDLESSLY AND IMPROPERLY EXPOSED. AT THAT TIME IT WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEAR TO PUBLIC OPINION THAT UNFICYP WAS LEAVING BECAUSE IT LACKED MANDATE TO INVOLVE ITSELF IN CONFRONTATION WITH REGULAR ARMED FORCES.

3. WALDHEIM IN RESPONSE TO MY SUGGESTION DID INSERT IN HIS REPORT TODAY TO SC SOME DETAILS OF HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES BEING CARRIED OUT BY UNFICYP TO BOTH COMMUNITIES, AND HE PROVIDED TURKISH REP. OLCAY WITH CONSIDERABLE DETAILED INFO ON SERVICES BEING PROVIDED BY UNFICYP TO TURKISH ENCLAVES AND THOSE HELD IN CONCENTRATIONS SUCH AS LIMSSOL - THIS LATTER WITH VIEW TO GETTING INFORMATION TO TURKISH MILITARY THAT UNFICYP BEING EVEN-HANDED AND HELPFUL TO TURKISH CYPRIOTS.

4. ABOVE INDICATES WALDHEIM FOLLOWING USUAL ERRATIC COURSE IN HIS EVER PRESENT AND OFTEN SHORT RANGE INSTINCT TO PROTECT HIMSELF AND HIS PUBLIC IMAGE. IN LENGTHY CONVERSATION, HOWEVER, HE SHOWED BASICALLY SOUND VIEW ON CYPRUS PROBLEM, AND HE APPEARS TO UNDERSTAND REALITIES OF NEW SITUATION ON CYPRUS. HE STRESSED FOR INSTANCE THAT HE HAS RESTRAINED STAFF FROM MAKING PUBLIC REPORTS OF JUST HOW MANY TURKISH VIOLATIONS OF CEASE-FIRE THERE HAVE BEEN SO AS NOT TO ADD TO EXCITEMENT OF SITUATION AND NOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO CREATION OF ATMOSPHERE THAT COULD BE EXPLOITED BY SOVIETS.

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BENNETT

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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